

ROGG has received a federal grant to fund a Master Plan and Feasibility Study for the proposed pathway from Naples to Miami. Ms. Huff is currently serving on the Project Team and Steering Committees for the study.

I am privileged to know Ms. Huff, and admire her commitment to the community. In her spare time, Ms. Huff is an avid bike rider. Along with her husband Steve, they have bicycled throughout the United States and Europe every year, covering over 25,000 miles since the year 2000. She is also publisher of the "The Mullet Rapper", a bi-weekly newsletter for the Everglades community and the primary source of information for city events.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Patricia Huff for her continued service to Southwest Florida, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER ALEX
YAZZIE

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Officer Alex Yazzie as they mourn a husband, father, and companion gone too soon. They are joined by the grateful hearts of the community of Shiprock, the Navajo Nation, and the state of New Mexico, as we all honor a tremendous public servant who gave his life in the line of duty.

Alex had dedicated his life to serving his country and his community so that we could rest easy. From basic training at Camp Pendleton with the Marine Corps, to 14 years with the Navajo Division of Public Safety, Alex had time and time again rushed into harm's way so that we could be safer. Last Thursday was no different; Officer Alex Yazzie responded because a family was in danger, because his fellow officers were in danger, because his community needed him.

When Alex didn't come back that day he left behind a legacy of kindness and service. We are wounded by his loss, but comforted by the memories of all that he gave us and the example that he set for all those in his community.

My prayers are with those that Alex has left behind, and I hope that they find peace in this most difficult time.

HOUSE BUDGET PROPOSALS

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, we are confronted by a set of facts that represent both tremendous opportunity and tremendous concern for our country. First, we are competing in a knowledge-based and technology-driven global economy. Second, our long-term fiscal trajectory is not sound. Third, our nation's infrastructure is increasingly inadequate and is dragging down economic growth. Fourth, millions of working Americans are still struggling to live the American Dream.

Unfortunately, none of the budgets brought to a vote on the House floor this week offer an adequate and appropriate response to these problems and priorities. I am strongly opposed to the Republican budget offered by Chairman PRICE. It fails to prepare our country for the future, hurts the most vulnerable Americans and reflects the wrong priorities, making it harder for many to pursue an education, buy a home or retire with dignity. It hurts seniors, parents and children. On balance, the Democratic alternative budget is a better reflection of our nation's values.

However, turning the budget into a political football is also not the answer. I believe that the only way we can truly address the challenges facing our country, help our workers and businesses compete and restore our fiscal health is to focus on the best ideas. I'm tired of Congress not being able to work together productively to do the people's work.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY
JANE MCSORLEY GARAMENDI

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, Congresswoman PETE AGUILAR, Congresswoman KAREN BASS, Congressman XAVIER BECERRA, Congressman AMI BERA, Congresswoman JULIA BROWNLEY, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPES, Congressman TONY CÁRDENAS, Congresswoman JUDY CHU, Congressman JIM COSTA, Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS, Congressman MARK DESAULNIER, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO, Congressman SAM FARR, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, Congresswoman JANICE HAHN, Congressman MIKE HONDA, Congressman JARED HUFFMAN, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, Congressman TED LIEU, Congressman ALAN LOWENTHAL, Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, Congressman JERRY MCNERNEY, Congresswoman GRACE NAPOLITANO, Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI, Congressman SCOTT PETERS, Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Congressman RAUL RUIZ, Congresswoman LINDA SÁNCHEZ, Congresswoman LORETTA SÁNCHEZ, Congressman ADAM SCHIFF, Congressman BRAD SHERMAN, Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, Congressman ERIC SWALWELL, Congressman MARK TAKANO, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, Congresswoman NORMA TORRES, Congressman JUAN VARGAS, and Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, to honor and remember the life of Mary Jane McSorley Garamendi. Mary Jane passed on March 19, 2015, amongst the prayers and support of her loving family and friends. The matriarch of the Garamendi family and a lifelong resident of Calaveras County, California, Mary Jane had a strength of spirit and benevolence of character that built a vigorous family, vibrant community, and lasting legacy.

Mary Jane was born on March 21, 1921, the granddaughter of pioneering Irish-Italian immigrants. When she was only three years old, she and her sister, Anne, lost their mother and a newborn brother, but their devoted father succeeded in raising them to be strong and independent young ladies on the family cattle ranch in Chili Gulch. Mary Jane attended and

graduated from Mokelumne Hill Elementary School and then from Calaveras High School in 1938. In 1942, she graduated from the University of Nevada Reno with a teaching credential for elementary and high school.

At college, Mary Jane met Raymond V. Garamendi, a fellow student and the love of her life. Following their graduations, they spent the years of World War II stationed at posts in California, Florida, and Georgia, and then returned to Chili Gulch to build their family home on the cattle ranch and begin their life raising seven children. They grew up part of the "Greatest Generation" and were determined to teach their children the tradition of agriculture, the power of education, and the importance of good governance.

Mary Jane's narrative is one of family, service, and community betterment. Always deeply engaged in civic affairs, she participated in the Mokelumne Hill Elementary School Parents Club, Mokelumne Hill Community Club, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Altar Society, Calaveras County Historical Society, Calaveras County Democratic Club and Central Committee, Calaveras County American Association of University Women, Mokelumne Hill Community Historical Trust, and the Mokelumne Hill History Society. She volunteered as a Cub Scout leader and Catechism teacher, served as a foreman on the Calaveras Grand Jury, and became a Board Member for the Mark Twain St. Joseph Foundation. She was a devout Catholic and lifelong parishioner of the St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Mokelumne Hill, which afforded other opportunities to engage and enrich the community. Whether she was serving at the Calaveras Women's Shelter, the Mokelumne Hill History Center, or the Calaveras County Museum, she readily and enthusiastically donated her time, heart, and energy to the people and places around her.

A civic leader, Mary Jane was honored by the Phi Beta Phi Fraternity in recognition of 75 years of membership, earning the honor of induction into the Diamond Arrow Society. In 2009, she was named the State of California "Woman of the Year" by her son, JOHN GARAMENDI, who was California Lieutenant Governor at the time. Her contributions to education, agriculture, and government also helped earn an honor for the Garamendi family by the Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee.

For Mary Jane, life itself was an act of joy and remembering. This shone through her commitment to the preservation of her rich Irish-Italian heritage and her careful studying of the Pitto and McSorley family histories. When Ray passed away in 1991, Mary Jane oversaw the family ranch alongside her son, Robert, allowing the working traditions to continue uninterrupted. The Ranch, which received a California Agriculture Heritage Award in 2005, is now in its 152nd year of operation, spanning six generations and lending a sense of tradition and timelessness to the family's weddings, reunions, and Christmas parties.

Mary Jane was a friend, a global adventurer, and the best sports enthusiast her children and grandchildren could ever hope for. Mary Jane's love and legacy continue on in the spirit, vigor, and joy of her 21 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren. She will be remembered for her unconditional love, her interminable commitment to service, and the popsicles she kept stocked in the freezer for